



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

ATLANTIC DIVISION  
NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND  
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

6280  
1143CFB

23 JAN 1985

From: Commander, Atlantic Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command

Subj: INITIAL ASSESSMENT STUDIES OF PUERTO RICO ACTIVITIES

Ref: (a) NAVENENVSA ltr 11100/1 Ser 112N/1213 of 21 Sep 1984  
(b) NAVENENVSA ltr 11100/1 Ser 112N/1214 of 21 Sep 1984  
(c) NAVENENVSA ltr 11100/1 Ser 112N/1215 of 21 Sep 1984  
(d) LANTNAVFACENGCOM ltr 114:JGW:cfb 6280 of 22 Mar 1984

Encl: (1) General Statement for Response to Media Queries: NACIP Study  
(2) Specific Response for NAVSTA Roosevelt Roads  
(3) Specific Response for Naval Activities, San Juan Area  
(4) Specific Response for NAVSECGRUACT Sabana Seca and NAVCOMMSTA Roosevelt Roads

1. Subject reports were finalized and distributed by reference (a). Because of recent media and public attention to former hazardous waste sites, any inquiries or requests for additional information should be handled by COMNAVFORCARIB Public Affairs Officer (PAO) in coordination with activity environmental engineers and this Command's Code 114. A generalized response for anticipated media queries is provided as enclosure (1); specific responses for each activity are provided as enclosures (2) through (4).

2. The cognizant Engineering Field Division (EFD) is responsible for coordinating any further work in the NACIP Program. LANTNAVFACENGCOM is preparing project documentation (Pollution Control Reports) and scope of work in support of Confirmation Study funding; funding is available in FY-85.

3. For NAVSTA Roosevelt Roads. Please advise us of the status of those corrective actions recommended by reference (d) for environmental deficiencies noted by the NACIP team.

4. LANTNAVFACENGCOM point of contact is Cherryl Barnett at (804) 444-9566 or AUTOVON 564-9566.

*J. R. Bailey*  
J. R. BAILEY  
By direction

Distribution:  
COMNAVFORCARIB  
NAVSTA Roosevelt Roads  
LANTFLTWPNTAFAC Roosevelt Roads  
NAVCOMMSTA Roosevelt Roads  
RESUPSHIP San Juan  
NAVSECGRUACT Sabana Seca

(Continued on next page)

RR-00155  
906-1-23-85

Subj: INITIAL ASSESSMENT STUDIES OF PUERTO RICO ACTIVITIES

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Puerto Rico Drydock & Marine Terminal, Inc.  
P.O. Box 2209  
San Juan, PR 00903  
Attn: Mr. Bertil Anderson

STATEMENT FOR RESPONSE TO MEDIA QUERIES ONLY  
NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE  
NACIP STUDY

The Department of the Navy began a comprehensive Installation Restoration (IR) Program in 1980 to control the possible migration of potentially hazardous environmental contamination from disposal sites. Under the Navy IR Program, the Navy Assessment and Control of Installation Pollutants (NACIP) Program was instituted to systematically identify, assess, and control contamination from suspected past hazardous material operations which may pose a threat to human health or the environment.

The NACIP Program consists of three separate and distinct phases:

(1) Initial Assessment Study (IAS) - collecting and evaluating evidence that may indicate the existence of pollutants that may have contaminated a site and that could pose a health hazard or an impact to the environment either on or off the installation.

(2) Confirmation Study (CS) - performing field investigations, including detailed physical and analytical monitoring, to confirm or deny the presence of contamination or a health hazard, and to quantify the extent of any problems that might exist.

(3) Corrective Measures - instituting needed remedial measures to control and mitigate contamination. The conduct and prioritization of Phases (2) and (3) is based on the findings of the preceding phase. Obviously, negative or insignificant findings result in termination of the NACIP Program for that particular site.

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906-1-23-85

STATEMENT FOR RESPONSE TO MEDIA QUERIES ONLY  
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NACIP INITIAL ASSESSMENT STUDY FOR NAVAL STATION, ROOSEVELT ROADS

The Initial Assessment Study (IAS) for Naval Station, Roosevelt Roads (NAVSTA Roosevelt Roads) has been completed. Based on information from historical records, aerial photographs, field inspections, and personnel interviews, a total of 20 potentially contaminated sites were identified, 14 on NAVSTA Roosevelt Roads and 6 on Vieques. Each of the sites was evaluated with regard to possible contamination characteristics (chemical composition, physical state and quantities), potential migration pathways (surface and ground water characteristics, precipitation and soil data), and pollutant receptors (distances to areas of concern, population and surrounding environmental considerations).

The study concludes that while none of the sites poses an immediate threat to human health or the environment, 16 warrant further investigation under the Navy Assessment and Control of Installation Pollutants (NACIP) Program to assess potential long-term impacts. A Confirmation Study, involving actual sampling and monitoring of the 16 sites, was recommended to confirm or deny the existence of the suspected contamination and to quantify the extent of any problems which might exist. The 16 sites recommended for confirmation are listed below in order of priority:

1. Site 9        PCB Disposal, Dry Dock Area
2. Site 7        Station Landfill
3. Site 18      Pest Control Shop and Surrounding Area
4. Site 12      Two Way Road Fuels Farm
5. Site 15      Substation 2
6. Site 11      Building 145

Enclosure (2)

7. Site 10 Building 25 Storage Area
8. Site 3 IRFNA/MAF-4 Disposal Site, Vieques
9. Site 13 Tanks 210 to 217
10. Site 14 Ensenada Honda Shoreline and Mangroves
11. Site 16 Old Power Plant, Building 38
12. Site 2 Mangrove Disposal Site, Vieques
13. Site 5 Army Cremator Disposal Area
14. Site 6 Langley Drive Disposal Site
15. Site 1 Quebrada Disposal Site, Vieques
16. Site 8 Drone Washdown

The results of the Confirmation Study will be used to evaluate the need to perform mitigating actions or cleanup operations.

#### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. What types of wastes are present at the 16 sites recommended for Confirmation Study (CS)?

Batteries, acids, solvents, POL, PCB's, paint, dead animals, debris, gas cylinders, ordnance carriers, fuel, fuel tank sludge, scrap metal, asbestos, pesticides, and general solid and industrial wastes.

2. Why were the other 4 sites not recommended for CS?

The sites were not recommended for further study because: (a) cleanup of contamination has been completed; (b) usage of hazardous materials was negligible; or, (c) no evidence of contamination was present.

3. What types of wastes are present at the 4 sites not recommended for CS?

Waste fuel, oils, and solvents, waste ordnance (typically burned or exploded), scrap metals, and mixed industrial and municipal solid wastes.

4. How much waste was disposed of at the 16 sites recommended for CS?

The IAS provides limited information and gives only estimations of past disposal quantities. Some of the information in the IAS report is based on current industrial generation rates or length of site use as a disposal area. The Confirmation Study is expected to identify the types of waste present in each area and further determine quantities.

5. Are any of the 16 sites still in use?

Site 7, the Station Landfill, is operated by a private contractor; however, no hazardous materials have been disposed of there since 1978. Wastewater from the drone washdown site (Site 8) now passes through an oil separator prior to discharge. The Two Way Road Fuels Farm (Site 12) is still in use, as are AVGAS storage tanks 212-217 (Site 13). Site 15, Substation 2, is used for the repair of electrical transformers.

6. Are any sites adjacent to a waterway?

Two potential disposal sites are located in waterways; five sites either border waterways or lie in swampy areas subject to tidal inundation.

7. Is anything being done to guard against contaminating the waterway?

Only one of the sites bordering a waterway is still in use and it operates under a permit. Base directives require proper handling, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials and hazardous wastes.

8. Are any sites close to a base boundary?

Seven sites are located in or adjacent to the Caribbean Sea which borders Roosevelt Roads on three sides and completely surrounds Vieques.

9. Is there any evidence of contamination at any of the 16 sites?

Physical evidence of contamination was observed at eleven sites.

10. What is being done to clean up the sites?

Funding is being requested for a Confirmation Study for the sites. The work will assess the extent, if any, of the contamination's impact on the environment. The study is projected to start during FY-85 and be completed in FY-86.

11. What is being done in the meantime?

An oil-water separator has been installed at Site 8. Booms and a leaching trench are in place at Site 12 to minimize fuel entering the harbor. Base directives mandate proper handling, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials and wastes.

STATEMENT FOR RESPONSE TO MEDIA QUERIES ONLY  
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NACIP INITIAL ASSESSMENT STUDY FOR NAVAL ACTIVITIES, SAN JUAN AREA

The Initial Assessment Study (IAS) for Naval Activities, San Juan area has been completed. Based on information from historical records, aerial photographs, field inspections, and personnel interviews, a total of three potentially contaminated sites were identified at the former NAVSTA San Juan and the former Naval Drydock and Repair Facility. Each of the sites was evaluated with regard to possible contamination characteristics (chemical composition, physical state and quantities), potential migration pathways (surface and ground water characteristics, precipitation and soil data), and pollutant receptors (distances to areas of concern, population and surrounding environmental considerations).

None of these sites poses a threat to human health or the environment and therefore does not warrant a Confirmation Study. The waste materials identified at these sites (sandblast grit, oil, and mixed industrial and solid wastes) were judged to either be inert or to have little or no potential for migration. The IAS recommended mitigative actions for these sites.

STATEMENT FOR RESPONSE TO MEDIA QUERIES ONLY  
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NACIP INITIAL ASSESSMENT STUDY FOR  
NAVAL SECURITY GROUP ACTIVITY, SABANA SECA AND  
NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS STATION, PUERTO RICO

The Initial Assessment Study (IAS) for NAVSECGRUACT Sabana Seca and NAVCOMMSTA Roosevelt Roads has been completed. Based on information from historical records, aerial photographs, field inspections, and personnel interviews, a total of seven potentially contaminated sites were identified at NAVSECGRUACT Sabana Seca. Each of the sites was evaluated with regard to possible contamination characteristics (chemical composition, physical state and quantities), potential migration pathways (surface and ground water characteristics, precipitation and soil data), and pollutant receptors (distances to areas of concern, population and surrounding environmental considerations).

The study concludes that while none of the sites poses an immediate threat to human health or the environment, two warrant further investigation under the Navy Assessment and Control of Installation Pollutants (NACIP) Program to assess potential long-term impacts. A Confirmation Study, involving actual sampling and monitoring of the two sites, was recommended to confirm or deny the existence of the suspected contamination and to quantify the extent of any problems which might exist. The two sites recommended for confirmation are listed below in order of priority:

1. Site 6      Former Pest Control Shop, Sabana Seca
2. Site 7      Leachate Ponding Area

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. What type of wastes may be present at the two sites recommended for Confirmation Study (CS)?

Pesticide residuals from the former pest control shop (Site 6) may still be present. Site 7 collects leachate from a municipal landfill (non-Navy owned).

2. Why were the other five sites not recommended for CS?

The sites were not recommended for further study because:

(a) contamination was previously cleaned up; (b) there is no evidence of hazardous waste disposal at the site; or (c) migration of the contaminants is unlikely.

3. What types of wastes are present at the five sites not recommended for CS:

Construction debris, scrap metal and wood, municipal and industrial solid wastes, house paint, and waste oil.

4. How much waste was disposed of at the two sites recommended for CS?

The IAS provides limited information and gives only estimations of past disposal quantities. Some of the information in the IAS report is based on current industrial generation rates or length of site use as a disposal area. The Confirmation Study is expected to identify the types of waste present in each area and further determine quantities.

5. Are either of the two sites still in use?

The municipal landfill which leaches into Site 7 is still in use.

6. Is either site adjacent to a waterway?

No.

7. Is either site close to the station boundary?

Site 7, which is located near the western boundary, receives surface runoff from a municipal landfill.

8. Is there any evidence of contamination at either of the sites?

Physical evidence of contamination was observed by the IAS team, however, groundwater sampling in 1982 and 1983 indicated no detectable organic or inorganic contamination.

9. What is being done to clean up the sites?

Funding is being requested for a Confirmation Study for the sites. The work will assess the extent, if any, of the contamination's impact on the environment. The study is projected to start during FY-85 and be completed by FY-86.

10. What is being done in the meantime?

The former pest control shop is completely fenced in and access is limited.